

MOUNT VERNON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAMBER CHAT

JULY 2025

Summer is a Great Time to Move Forward by Stepping Away

Running a business or organization, or working hard in one takes heart, hustle, and a whole lot of hours. But here's the twist: sometimes the best way to improve your results is to take a step back. Whether you're leading the charge or contributing behind the scenes, it's easy to get caught up in the daily grind and lose sight of the bigger picture.

Taking a break, maybe a long weekend, a walk outside, or even a good conversation with someone outside your bubble can offer fresh perspective. It's not about checking out. It's about zooming out so you can reset, refocus, and return with sharper insight and energy.

For leaders, this might mean building systems that allow your team to carry the load for a bit. For team members, it could mean using your time off with intention or asking for opportunities to step back and reflect on what's working, and what's not.

Talking with people outside your usual circle helps too. Whether it's a Chamber event, a training session, or lunch with a peer, that simple shift in perspective can spark new ideas. Sometimes the smartest move forward starts with stepping away.

Of course, I have some Chamber programs that might be perfect for your journey toward a new perspective:

- "Networking for Success: The Real Talk on Talkin' Biz," on the 11th, so you're ready for —
- Our new morning, Biz Buzz Networking Breakfast, on July 18
- Membership Luncheon on the 23rd, with Skagit Tourism Bureau CEO, Kristen Keltz
- Riverwalk Summer Concert Series, starting on July 10!

Have a great month—and step away when you can!
Andy Mayer, President & CEO



GOLD



SILVER



Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce
(360) 428-8547
mountvernonchamber.com

Calendar of Events

Speaking of Women Coffee Chat

Wednesday, July 9

9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Union Block Bistro

614 1st St

Mount Vernon

[Register here](#)



Skagit Chamber Alliance Multi-Chamber After Hours at Proscapes

Thursday, Jul 10

5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Proscapes

9002 S March Point Rd

Anacortes

Networking for Success: The Real Talk on Talkin' Biz

Friday, July 11

9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Mount Vernon Chamber

301 W Kincaid St

Mount Vernon

[Register here](#)

Membership Orientation

Monday, July 14

12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

301 W Kincaid St

Mount Vernon

[Register here](#)

Biz Buzz Networking Breakfast

Friday, July 18

9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Mount Vernon Library Commons

208 W Kincaid St

Mount Vernon

[Register here](#)



Chamber Membership Luncheon - Skagit Tourism Bureau: Progress & Possibilities, Kristen Keltz, CEO

Wednesday, July 23

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

208 W Kincaid St

Mount Vernon

[Register here](#)



BrewFest on the Skagit

Presented by

Peoples Bank
A higher level of service.

Saturday, September 6, 2025 from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

We are thrilled to announce the 23rd annual BrewFest on the Skagit. Cold beer, cider and wine, delicious food, and fantastic music. Pair that with leisure games, a view of the Skagit River, and you are guaranteed to have a blast. A portion of each ticket sold will go to the Lincoln Theatre Foundation to help keep live music, theatre, community events and film in the theatre throughout the year. [Get tickets here!](#)

Music lineup:

2 p.m. The Chris Eger Band

4:30 p.m. Eden

Find sponsorship opportunities on page 8 of this newsletter. Contact Jeremy Kindlund, Operations director at 360 428-8547 or Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com to secure your place!

Mount Vernon Chamber Foundation: Cultivating Future Leaders



The Mount Vernon Chamber Foundation is committed to its mission of proactively encouraging economic growth by facilitating the advancement of future leaders through gainful employment and entrepreneurial opportunities in an equitable community. Our mission is accomplished through the Foundation's impactful programs: Experience Work Project, Latino Business Leaders, and Latino Business Youth.

Experience Work Project (EWP): established in 2006, EWP is a cornerstone of the Foundation's efforts to connect students with real-world career opportunities. EWP partners with over 150 local businesses to provide invaluable experiential learning activities for youth and adult students. These opportunities allow participants to explore various career paths, develop essential skills, and gain practical experience.

Latino Business Leaders (LBL): launched in July 2019, LBL provides monthly educational sessions for entrepreneurs as well as one-on-one consultations for participants seeking additional support. The program's goal is to empower new entrepreneurs through professional development, networking, and mentorship, thereby facilitating their advancement and participation in the region's economic landscape.

Latino Business Youth (LBY): the program started in July 2024 and invites individuals (ages 16-24) to participate in a comprehensive business training program. In addition to the business training, the program includes mentorship by established business owners.

As summer blooms, our Foundation programs pause their regular sessions, taking a few weeks to focus on improvements and expansions, resuming their activities in late summer and early fall. A heartfelt thank you to all our incredible partners, dedicated mentors, and generous supporters whose contributions have been instrumental in helping these vital programs make a bigger impact in our community. We invite our mission-oriented businesses and individuals to partner with us, foster economic growth and continue cultivating future leaders.

For more information, please contact Business Development and Foundation Director, Silvia Reed | Direct: (360) 395-2944 Cell: (360) 305-0895 | Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com

Riverwalk Summer Concert Series

Dust off your lawn chairs, put on your dancing shoes and come to Historic Downtown Mount Vernon for some memorable summer evenings! The Riverwalk Summer Concert Series is free thanks to our sponsors. From foot-tapping blues, to old-time rock and roll music, the Riverwalk Concerts are a great way to wind down your week or jump-start a fun-filled weekend.

2025 Lineup

July 10 - The Enthusiasts
 July 17 - Mama Dirty Skirt
 July 24 - The Chris Eger Band and the PowerHouse Horns
 July 31 - EDEN
 August 7 - Friends For the Ghost
 August 14 - Midlife Crisis & the Alimony Horns
 August 21 - The Atlantics
 August 28 - Criminal Squirrel Orchestra

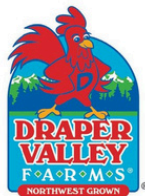


Thank you sponsors!

..... PRESENTED BY

DL DWAYNE LANE'S
SKAGIT SUBARU

Craft Stove



Ethan
Home Repair &
Remodeling LLC.



Partner Members

Anderson Podiatry, Aquarius Collective, Bank of the Pacific, Birch Equipment Co., Chikara PR, LLC, Coastal Farm & Ranch, CPI Plumbing & Heating, Foothills Toyota, Global Credit Union, Haggen Food & Pharmacy, Hampton Inn & Suites, Kern Funeral Home, Landed Gentry Homes & Communities, Law Office of Jeffrey R. Pollock, PLLC, Loving Farms, Mount Vernon School District, North Coast Credit Union, PogoZone, Port of Skagit, Puget Sound Energy, Quality Gutters, Skagit Public Utility District 1, Skagit Valley Casino Resort, Skagit Regional Health, Skagit Speedway, Skagit Valley Food Co-op, Testing and Commissioning Services, LLC, WECU, Williams & Nulle, PLLC, CPAs, Wingate by Wyndham

Welcome New Members

Golden Hour Cafe

Betsy Anorbe
(360) 755-6116
127 E Fairhaven Ave
Burlington



www.facebook.com/goldenhourcafe

Where comfort meets flavor. Espresso, waffles, sandwiches, and sweet treats—all made with love.

Pegasys Technologies

Mike Ebersole
(360) 453-7751
PO Box 2542
Mount Vernon



www.pegasystech.com

We are an efficient and responsive technology service provider that delivers results-based service. Our streamlined approach to IT management allows us to implement solutions that leverage the latest technology, enhancing your ability to increase revenue and drive your business forward.

Thank You Renewing Members

35+ Years

J.D.'s Laundry

15+ Years

Big Scoop Sundae Palace & Restaurant
Children's Museum of Skagit County
Gateway Automotive and Transmission
Goodwinds Composites
Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton
Rouw Insurance Services

10+ Years

Ackermann Electric Co.
Christianson's Nursery
Groundworks
Larson Gross, CPAs & Consultants
Learned Commercial, Inc.
Little Mountain Laser
Natural Way Chiropractic and Massage
Skagit Cycle Center
WAFD Insurance Group Inc.

5+ Years

Associated General Contractors of Washington - AGC
Avalon Golf Links
Guided Solutions (Formerly VibrantUSA)
Guild Mortgage, The Griffin Group
La Conner Channel Lodge
NW Technology

Less than 5 Years

Farmers Insurance Tory Charette Agency

Member Testimonial

"Being a Mount Vernon Chamber member has grown my business and my friendships. Joining just 3 years ago, I have met some of my closest referral partners and friends."



Morgan Elton
Country Financial
The Elton Group

If anyone wanted to pick one thing to grow their business, I would recommend joining the Mount Vernon Chamber"

www.MountVernonChamber.com



Stay Connected
With the Chamber

TEXT

mvchamber newsletters

218-229-8880

To receive our monthly newsletter in your phone

Board of Directors

Chair - Tony White

Skagit Valley Food Co-op

Vice Chair - Tammy Reim-Ledbetter

Global Credit Union

Past Chair - Flora Lucatero

Children of the Valley

Treasurer - Tony Cook

Cook CPAs and Consultants, PLLC

Member at Large - Dr. Chris Villa

Skagit Valley College

Lance Calloway

Association of General Contractors

Matt Gill

Marathon Petroleum Corporation

Katie Hayton

La Conner Inn

Elizabeth Jennings

Community Action of Skagit County

Robert Knoll

Puget Sound Energy

Andrew Miller

Tulip Valley Farms

Julia Phillip

Julia Phillip Realty

Jon Ronngren

Mount Vernon School District

Steve Sexton

City of Mount Vernon

Danny Vera

Skagit Regional Health

STAFF

Andy Mayer President/CEO

Silvia Reed Business Development and
Foundation Director

Jeremy Kindlund Operations Director

Bob Johnson & Julie Newkirk

Visitor Information Services

Member Announcements

Peoples Bank to Sponsor Mount Baker Theatre Season



Mount Baker Theatre (MBT) is proud to announce that Peoples Bank has been named the official 2025-2026 Season Sponsor as MBT prepares to unveil its 99th season of serving Northwest Washington and Southern British Columbia. In addition, they will continue as the annual Concessions Sponsor. The long-time supporter of the region, Peoples Bank, is a locally owned and operated community bank headquartered in Bellingham.

Join Us for the 2nd Annual Children of the Valley Golf Tournament!



Get ready to tee off for a great cause at the 2nd Annual Golf Tournament hosted by Andy's 5 Star Flooring at Avalon Golf Course!

Date: August 20th

Registration: 10:00 AM

Shotgun Start: 12:00 PM

Gather your foursome and sign up to help raise money for a meaningful cause. It's a fun day of golf, giving back, and community spirit!

We're also looking for tournament sponsors and raffle baskets, a great way to promote your business while supporting a good cause.

Visit shorturl.at/fdMOp for more information.

See you on the course!



For more member announcements, visit
mountvernonchamber.com/member-announcements

Send your announcements to
Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com

June in Pictures



**Multi-Chamber After Hours at
Sedro-Woolley Farmers Market**



**Member Appreciation
Luncheon at Craft Stove**



**Speaking of Women event at
Whispering Firs Bed & Breakfast**



**Ambassador Meeting at
Global Credit Union**



**Ambassadors are inviting
prospective members to the Biz
Buzz Networking Breakfast**



**Chamber Volunteers celebrate
another successful Skagit Valley
Tulip Festival at Il Granaio Inc.**

Ambassadors

Chair - Betsy Anorbe

Betsy Anorbe Real Estate

Silvia Alvarez

Triumph Teen Life Center

Clarissa De Vries

CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC

Dan Dewispelaere-Rusch

Global Credit Union

Morgan Elton

Country Financial -

The Elton Group

Alicia Evans

Guardian Northwest

Title & Escrow

Angie Guerrero

Nexo Insulation and

Construction

Ian Houben

Skagit Habitat for Humanity

Jaime Huss

Washington Federal

Crystal King

Chinook Enterprises

Karla Nelson

U.S. Bank - Riverside Dr

Ruth Medina

All Colors Painting

Jessica Rodriguez

Children of the Valley After

School Program

BRONZE LEGACY



BrewFest on the Skagit
Sponsorship Opportunities
Saturday, September 6, 2025



Presenting Sponsor: \$5,000 - Not available

Opportunity to speak and be recognized at the event

Mentioned in all radio ads – KISM, KAPS and KBRC

Logo prominently displayed on event poster as the Presenting Sponsor

Logo listed as the Presenting Sponsor on all advertising, marketing materials, and social media including:

- Logo on Skagit Valley Herald display ad

- Branded advertising on MountVernonChamber.com

- Social Media Promotion on Chamber channels

- Logo in the chamber newsletter

Eight tickets to the event

Company Banner displayed at event

Display table at event

Imperial Sponsor: \$1,500

Company logo prominently displayed on promotional poster

Special recognition during event

Company logo on advertising, marketing materials, and social media including:

- Logo on Skagit Valley Herald display ad

- Branded advertising on MountVernonChamber.com

- Social Media Promotion on Chamber channels

Six tickets to the event

Company Banner displayed at event

Display table the event

Supporting Sponsor: \$550

Company logo displayed on promotional poster

Company logo on advertising, marketing materials, and social media including:

- Logo on Skagit Valley Herald display ad

- Branded advertising on MountVernonChamber.com

- Social Media Promotion on Chamber channels

Two tickets to the event

Contact Jeremy Kindlund, Operations Director to reserve your spot!

(360) 428-8547

Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com



Skagit Valley Highland Games

A wee bit of Scotland in Skagit Valley!



Athletic
Competitions



Bagpipes &
Drums



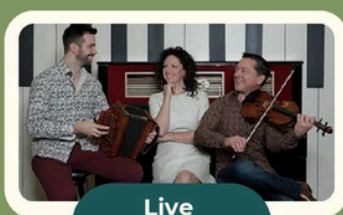
Family
Fun



Highland
Dancing



Sheepdog
Demos



Live
Music

July 12-13, 2025

SKAGIT COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS



This event is
funded in part by:
VisitSkagitValley.com

FOR MORE INFO :

CELTICARTS.ORG/HIGHLAND-GAMES

